question of offering greater Veterinary aid and irrigation facilities but mainly by the generous provision made for a 12½ per cent tax suspension. The physical, mental and spiritual welfare of the depressed classes has been kept prominently in view. An increased measure of attention has been paid to the interests of public safety and peace by the addition to the existing Police force and the creation of a C. I. D. Although, on the one side, the principle of equitable distribution of the burden of taxation has been given effect to in the shape of a tax on incomes, fresh avenues have, on the other side, been sought to be explored by arranging for an Economic Survey and making cheap electrical energy available for future industrial development. The schemes for development of the Cochin Harbour and the conversion of the State Railway into broad-gauge hold out very good promise of prosperity for the future, and I pray that, as time proceeds, the two important schemes on the furtherance of which the State has reverted to the vigorous adoption of its traditional and well-known spirited financial policy will result in developing greatly the material resources of the State and the happiness of its people.

But, before I resume my seat, it is my pleasant duty to express my grateful acknowledgment of the care and attention bestowed by the Ag. Diwan in framing the Budget and by the Members of the Standing Finance Committee in making several constructive suggestions in the course of the sitting of the Committee.

Point of Order.—*re. time for raising Points of Order.*

President.—Now, the Hon'ble Member for Kunnamkulam raised a point of order. Kindly state what it is.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The point is whether any member of this Council has got the right of raising a point of order at any time during the business of the Council.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Rule 26 provides for it.

President.—I do concede that point. It may be that when another member is on his legs and doing some business, I might have asked the member who raised the point of order to wait. I am the last person to curtail the privileges enjoyed by this

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Council. On the other hand I am fighting for greater responsibilities and privileges for this Council. At any time I am prepared to hear any point of order raised in this Council and to the best of my ability give a ruling.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Sir, I wish to bring to your notice one more point. The Rule states that when a member stands up on a point of order, the other member should sit down. The President's decision is, I submit, contrary to the rule.

President.—No hard and fast rule can be laid down. I shall see hereafter that no room for misunderstanding is given. I shall deal with each situation as it arises.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Sir, the Rule again provides for the adjournment of business at any time without interrupting a speech.

President.—Yes. It is a right which you have got under the Rules.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Thank you, Sir.

President's Statement.

President.—I have a very simple suggestion to make. I am one who is very jealous of maintaining the privileges of this Council. In the Imperial Legislative Assembly and other Legislative bodies, for the general discussion of the budget, a new system has been arrived at. The Hon'ble Members on the Non-official side divide themselves into a number of groups, one group for General Administration, another for Education and a third for Public Works and so on. If this method is adopted, each particular group can concentrate their attention to the points at issue involved in that particular subject. One member of the group may lead the discussion, a second member supplements it and a third member replies to it and closes the discussion. The whole House will then have a very clear and comprehensive idea of what the views of the Hon'ble Members are in regard to the respective branches of administration. I don't press this upon you.

As I said, I have no axe of my own to grind. I only want this House to prosper. The President and members of this House may come and go, but Cochin and Cochin people will remain for ever. (*Hear, hear*). We must all do our humble mite towards helping Cochin in her progress. I have only given a suggestion for your consideration, you may take it for what it is worth.

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